

**Introduced by Senator Kopp**  
(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Papan)

June 17, 1998

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 97—Relative to Officer David J. Chetcuti Memorial Highway.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 97, as introduced, Kopp. Officer David J. Chetcuti Memorial Highway.

This measure would designate the portion of State Highway Route 101 that extends from the San Francisco International Airport to the Broadway-Burlingame exit as the Officer David J. Chetcuti Memorial Highway.

This measure would also request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost of appropriate plaques and markers showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect appropriate plaques and markers.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 WHEREAS, David John Chetcuti was born to John and  
2 Lily Chetcuti in San Francisco on March 5, 1955, the  
3 youngest of seven children, graduated from Capuchino  
4 High School in San Bruno, and, in November 1983, joined  
5 the Millbrae Police Department as a Reserve Police  
6 Officer; and

7 WHEREAS, David John Chetcuti was hired in April  
8 1987 as a Deputy Sheriff with the Alameda County  
9 Sheriff's Department and, in December 1987, shortly

1 after graduating from Alameda County's 91st Basic  
2 Academy, accepted a position with the Millbrae Police  
3 Department; and

4 WHEREAS, During a distinguished 11-year career in  
5 the Millbrae Police Department, Officer Dave Chetcuti  
6 consistently performed as an outstanding officer and  
7 leader, with assignments as a patrol officer, field training  
8 officer and, most recently, traffic officer; and

9 WHEREAS, Officer Chetcuti was the first officer from  
10 the Millbrae Police Department to receive recognition  
11 for the highest number of drunk driving arrests during  
12 the "Avoid the 23" Campaign and, in 1995, he received  
13 the department's Lifesaving Award for initiating  
14 cardio-pulmonary resuscitation on a heart attack victim;  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Officer Chetcuti earned more than 33  
17 written commendations and was named in countless  
18 news stories describing his arrests, investigations, and  
19 extraordinary achievements, and his personnel file  
20 contained numerous congratulations, testimonials, and  
21 expressions of appreciation and gratitude from members  
22 of the public and organizations who benefited from his  
23 abiding commitment to duty and service; and

24 WHEREAS, On April 25, 1998, Officer Dave Chetcuti  
25 was the first to respond to a call for aid from a fellow  
26 officer involved in a traffic stop and shooting on State  
27 Highway Route 101 in the vicinity of the Millbrae Avenue  
28 off ramp, and as Officer Chetcuti arrived on his  
29 motorcycle and approached the suspected vehicle and  
30 driver, shots were fired, striking Officer Chetcuti and  
31 fatally wounding him, but not before he was able to  
32 return fire at the suspect; and

33 WHEREAS, Officer Dave Chetcuti was the first police  
34 officer killed in San Mateo County in the last decade and  
35 the first officer of the Millbrae Police Department slain  
36 in the department's 50-year history; and

37 WHEREAS, Officer Dave Chetcuti, survived by his  
38 wife, Gail, and three sons, David Jr., John, and Rick, was  
39 a loving husband and devoted father; and



1 WHEREAS, Officer Chetcuti was active in the Millbrae  
2 Police Officers' Association, previously serving as that  
3 organization's President, was a member of the Peninsula  
4 Peace Officers' Association, and was a consummate  
5 professional and a deeply respected police officer; and

6 WHEREAS, As a result of his dedication to his duties,  
7 Officer Chetcuti lost his life while protecting the citizens  
8 of Millbrae and this state, and the memory of Officer  
9 Chetcuti continues to exemplify for other peace officers  
10 throughout the state the highest standard of duty and  
11 selflessness; and

12 WHEREAS, It is appropriate that a portion of State  
13 Highway Route 101 be dedicated to the memory of  
14 Officer Dave Chetcuti; now, therefore, be it

15 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the*  
16 *Assembly thereof concurring,* That the Legislature  
17 hereby designates the portion of State Highway Route  
18 101 that extends from the San Francisco International  
19 Airport to and including the Broadway-Burlingame exit  
20 as the Officer David J. Chetcuti Memorial Highway; and  
21 be it further

22 *Resolved,* That the Department of Transportation is  
23 requested to determine the cost of appropriate plaques  
24 and markers, consistent with the signing requirements  
25 for the state highway system, showing the special  
26 designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate  
27 sources covering that cost, to erect those plaques and  
28 markers; and be it further

29 *Resolved,* That the Secretary of the Senate transmit a  
30 copy of this resolution to the Director of Transportation.

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